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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

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NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : USCINCSO FOR POLAD, Amembassies MANAGUA, SAN SALVADOR,  
TEGUCIGALPA, PANAMA

FROM : Amembassy GUATEMALA

SUBJECT : Weekly Internal Security Report A/CDC/WR

REF :

REVIEWED BY *CCJ* DATE 7 OCT 1968  
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

ANALYSIS BRANCH

DATE: Jul 6, 1968

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BUREAU OF  
INTER-AMERICAN AFF  
JUL 10 1968

1. A rash of insurgent activity this week broke the lull of the past few months. A "rocket attack" on the Guardia del Honor military base in Guatemala City while Army Day celebrations were being held nearby was the most dramatic, although the 3.5 shell failed to explode. Bombings, shootings and various acts of sabotage cropped up throughout the country, apparently designed to coincide with celebrations of the government's second anniversary on July 1.
2. Security forces reported a number of successes during the week, including the slaying of 6 guerrillas in Concuá, Baja Verapaz. Four of the guerrillas were later identified as a father, age 65, his two sons, and a 15-year-old boy. The incident apparently took place while the army was searching houses in the town. In the capital, a guerrilla indoctrination center was raided in Zone 12 after a gun battle, in which the police wounded and captured one of the occupants of the house. Police also discovered what was described as an operations center for subversives in a house in Zone 10. The house, rented by an American businessman now in the United States on vacation, had been left in charge of a young law student who, police claim, is a known FAR member who stored weapons and communist propaganda in the house.
3. A ton of raw materials, possibly for use in making explosives being smuggled into Guatemala from Mexico, was captured by security forces near Malacatan after a gun battle with what was reported to be 30 men. The smugglers escaped.
4. July 1 was marked by a number of acts of sabotage. Bombs exploded

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at the PR headquarters in San Marcos and Quezaltenango. Tacks were left on the Pacific Highway; telephone and power lines were cut in various spots; and subversive signs were painted on walls.

5. An unexploded tear gas grenade was found July 1 on a window ledge outside the Peace Corps office; another was placed at the office of ALERTA, a rightist newspaper [REDACTED] B  
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6. In other incidents 2 policemen were shot and wounded in the city from passing cars, several murders were committed by groups of armed men, and 2 groups of common criminals--one operating in Zacapa, the other out of Puerto Barrios--were captured. Finally several government officials were reported threatened by clandestine groups.

7. Asylee business continued brisk at the Mexican Embassy. After a 40-day stay, Mexican officials escorted Messrs. Mario TOBIAS and Jose Maria TURCIOS Lima to the airport for their flight to Mexico (see Guatemala's A-431 for background). Under the watchful eyes of Guatemalan security forces, Turcios sprinted for the plane. Tobias, still recovering from bullet wounds, was carried aboard. Next day three still unidentified men requested asylum at the Embassy, filling the recently vacated rooms.

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